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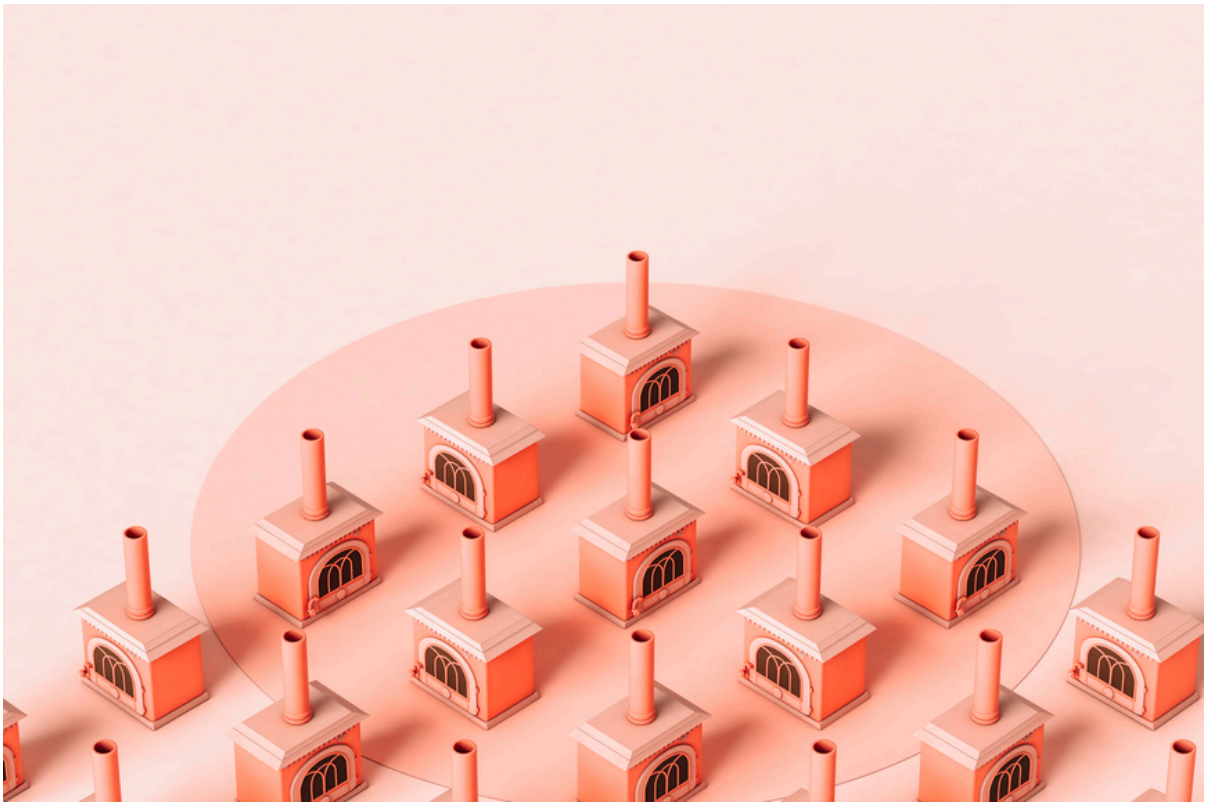

Word of the Year

Greetings, friends.

This is my last email in 2021. It has been a pleasure to work with you over the past year. I appreciate everything that you accomplished in what has been an intense and complex year, especially considering how much we were all thrown together online! In our many hours of video conferencing, I realized how much we have in common.

You all embody community ownership, democratic governance, as well as an active commitment to our mission: "to start, grow, and convert platform co-ops." We've educated the world about how cooperative principles can apply to technology and automation. When I think about this past twelve months--the time spent learning from each other, collaborating on research and projects that affect both personal lives (like family wellness) or local communities–I can't help but be motivated by how much we have accomplished.

But rather than listing achievements, I would like to celebrate our lives and work together. We have many important projects, research programs, and events planned for the next year, all different but rooted in our shared values. Merriam-Webster picked “vaccine” as its Word of the Year. This time around next year, I'm pretty sure we'll see the word "**our**" take over in our movement!

The Platform Cooperativism Consortium (PCC) has had a productive year, with many people and organizations coming together to help us advance our shared mission. We collaborated with other movements, our global network of platform co-op pioneers, researchers, and technologists building the future of economic justice for all through shared ownership models that promote sustainability.

We support regulators, but we also build. Our findings challenge the concentration of power in the data economy while also assisting policymakers who want to support cooperative digital platforms. This work is more urgent now than ever.

The PCC Circle of Cooperators has been assisting us with our mission to reimagine how innovation can serve all people rather than just the few gig economy mega players. The support we have received from the Circle and partners worldwide shows how strength comes when everyone works together towards one goal - building a better future for all!

Please **donate to support** our Fellowship Program and annual conference.

in solidarity,
Trebor Scholz

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Platform Cooperativism Consortium

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